II.   AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing replaces any and all prior listings of the claims:

1. (Currently amended)   A method for managing data using a file name on a computer system having a graphical user interface and a file system storing files with a file hierarchy, the method comprising the steps of:

- entering a command from an application to create a file;

- displaying the file hierarchy;

- allowing a user to select at least one folder;

- saving data in a first file having a file name in one selected folder;

- in each of the other selected folders, creating a shortcut file having ~~the same~~ a different file name _from the first file_ and containing a pointer to the first file;

- creating a hidden file in the folder containing the first file, the hidden file containing a list of pointers to the shortcut files; and

- using the hidden file during file management operations to keep track of occurrences of the shortcut files in the file hierarchy.

2. (Currently amended)   The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of:

- entering a command from an application to open a file;

- displaying the file hierarchy and selecting one of the at least one folder;

- selecting a file having ~~the file~~ a different _name ~~of~~ from_ the first file;

- if the file to be opened is not a shortcut file, opening the first file; and

- if the file to be opened is a shortcut file, pointing to and opening the first file.

3. (Currently amended)   The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of:

- entering a command from an application to delete a file;

- displaying the file hierarchy and selecting one of the at least one folder;

- selecting the file having ~~the~~ a file name;

- if a hidden file does not exist, deleting the ~~second~~ file;

- if a hidden file exists and if the selected file is a shortcut file, deleting the shortcut file and updating the hidden file accordingly; and

- if a hidden file exists and if the selected file is not a shortcut file, replacing one of the shortcut files by the selected file, updating the hidden file accordingly, and moving the hidden file into the folder of the replaced shortcut file and deleting the selected file.

4. (Currently amended)   The method of claim 3 further comprising the steps of:

if a hidden file exists:

- displaying a button to delete the selected file from all folders containing the file or a shortcut file to the selected file ~~having the same file name~~; and

- if the button is selected, deleting the selected file and all the other shortcut files or non-shortcut file ~~having the same file name~~ and belonging to other folders.

5. (Currently amended)   The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of:

- entering a command from an application to move a file;

- displaying the file hierarchy and selecting one of the at least one folder;

- selecting a file having ~~the~~ a different file name;

- selecting a target folder;

- if a hidden file does not exist, moving the selected file;

- if a hidden file exists and if the selected file is a shortcut file, moving the shortcut file and updating the hidden file accordingly; and

- if a hidden file exists and if the selected file is not a shortcut file, moving the file to the target folder, updating the hidden file accordingly, and moving the hidden file to the target folder.

6. (Original)   The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of:

- entering a command from an application to copy a file;

- displaying the file hierarchy and selecting one of the at least one folder;

- selecting a file having the file name;

- selecting a target folder;

- if a hidden file does not exist, copying the selected file; and

- if a hidden file exists, creating in the target folder a shortcut file of the selected file and updating the hidden file accordingly.

7. (Currently amended)   A computer readable medium storing computer program product comprising programming code instructions, which when executed, enables a computer system to manage data using a file name on a computer system having a graphical user interface and a file system storing files with a file hierarchy, the computer instructions comprising: adapted for executing the steps of the method according to claim 1 when the program product is executed in a computer

- entering a command from an application to create a file;

- displaying the file hierarchy;

- allowing a user to select at least one folder;

- saving data in a first file having a file name in one selected folder;

- in each of the other selected folders, creating a shortcut file having a different file name from the first file and containing a pointer to the first file;

- creating a hidden file in the folder containing the first file, the hidden file containing a list of pointers to the shortcut files; and

- using the hidden file during file management operations to keep track of occurrences of the shortcut files in the file hierarchy.

8. (Currently amended)   A computing system comprising means adapted for executing the computer ~~program~~ instructions of claim 7.